

DCI'S REMARKS TO INTRODUCE GUESTS IN AUDITORIUM AT
1500 ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 27

AS PART OF THE ACTIVITIES COMMEMORATING HISPANIC WEEK AT THE AGENCY I AM DELIGHTED TO WELCOME YOU AND OUR DISTINGUISHED GUESTS WHO WILL SPEAK ABOUT THE HISPANIC PEOPLE AND THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT. BEFORE INTRODUCING OUR SPEAKERS; HOWEVER, I WOULD LIKE TO FOCUS ON A FEW POINTS OF INTEREST.

WE HAVE A LONG HISPANIC CULTURAL TRADITION IN THIS COUNTRY THAT WE SOMETIMES FORGET; WE ARE MUCH MORE COGNIZANT OF OUR ENGLISH ROOTS. BUT SPANISH SOLDIERS AND EXPLORERS DISCOVERED AND FOUNDED COLONIES IN PARTS OF NORTH AMERICA OVER 100 YEARS BEFORE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE BRITISH SETTLEMENTS IN VIRGINIA AND THE NEW ENGLAND AREA. SPANISH EXPLORATION AND COLONIZATION IN THIS HEMISPHERE WAS AN AMAZING FEAT WHEN YOU CONSIDER THE SMALL NUMBERS OF MEN AND THE TREMENDOUS OBSTACLES THEY ENCOUNTERED. ROUGHLY TWO AND ONE HALF CENTURIES LATER, SPAIN ASSISTED OUR INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT.

EARLY IN 1776, THE KING OF SPAIN, CHARLES III,
COVERTLY PROVIDED FINANCIAL HELP TO THE THIRTEEN COLONIES,

AND IN JUNE OF THAT YEAR HE BEGAN SENDING LARGE QUANTITIES OF WEAPONS AND SUPPLIES TO THE CONTINENTAL FORCES. AT THAT TIME THE SPANISH CROWN EXTENDED THE FIRST OF WHAT WAS TO BE A NUMBER OF CREDITS TO THE COLONIES; THE AMOUNT WAS THE PRINCELY SUM OF ONE MILLION POUNDS. THE COLONISTS USED THESE FUNDS TO PURCHASE SOME 200 BRONZE CANNON, MORE THAN 300 TONS OF GUNPOWDER AND THOUSANDS OF RIFLES AND UNIFORMS. AS PROOF OF SPAIN'S GROWING INTEREST IN AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE, THE CROWN ASSIGNED AN OBSERVER TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS IN PHILADELPHIA IN 1777. THIS MAN LATER BECAME A CLOSE PERSONAL FRIEND OF GEORGE WASHINGTON.

ALTHOUGH SPAIN CONTINUED TO ASSIST THE COLONIES WITH SUPPLIES, WEAPONS, AMMUNITION AND MEDICINES, IT DID NOT FORMALLY GET INVOLVED IN THE INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT UNTIL 1779 WHEN IT DECLARED WAR ON GREAT BRITAIN. SPAIN'S ROLE IN THE WAR WAS TO HAVE A CONSIDERABLE IMPACT ON THE FINAL OUTCOME. FOR EXAMPLE, THE GOVERNOR OF SPANISH LOUISIANA, A GENTLEMAN NAMED GALVEZ, ATTACKED THE BRITISH ALONG THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER, CAPTURING BATON ROUGE, NATCHEZ, MOBILE, AND PENSACOLA. THE LATTER CITY WAS OF IMMENSE STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE BECAUSE IT CONTROLLED THE NAVIGATION AND COMMERCE OF THE GULF OF

MEXICO. THIS GOVERNOR'S NAME WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN. IN 1777 TROOPS UNDER HIS COMMAND FOUNDED A CITY IN WHAT IS NOW TEXAS; THIS IS, OF COURSE, GALVESTON.

THERE ARE MANY OTHER EXAMPLES OF CONTRIBUTIONS THAT HISPANICS FROM MEXICO, PUERTO RICO, CUBA AND INDEED ALL THE AMERICAS HAVE MADE TO OUR DEVELOPMENT. BUT I AM NOT HERE TODAY TO RECITE THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS. INSTEAD, I WANT TO RECOGNIZE THE CONTRIBUTION THAT OUR HISPANIC EMPLOYEES HAVE MADE AND CONTINUE TO MAKE IN HELPING TO FULFILL THE MISSION OF THIS AGENCY. YOUR REPRESENTATION IS SMALL BUT YOUR IMPACT GREAT. WE ARE MAKING PROGRESS IN INCREASING YOUR RANKS BUT WE MUST DO BETTER.

WE MUST DO BETTER IN OTHER WAYS AS WELL. I WANT TO AFFIRM THIS AGENCY'S AND MY OWN PERSONAL COMMITMENT TO INSURE THAT WE AT CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GIVE FULL OPPORTUNITY TO ALL FOR EMPLOYMENT, TO INSURE THAT WE FULLY UTILIZE THE SKILLS OF OUR PERSONNEL - THIS IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT AT A TIME OF DIMINISHING RESOURCES-AND TO GIVE ALL THE OPPORTUNITY TO ADVANCE AND HAVE A FRUITFUL CAREER IN THE SERVICE OF OUR NATION, REGARDLESS OF RACE, CREED, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, OR AGE. I ASK ALL OF YOU TO HELP IN THIS GOAL. THE STRENGTH OF OUR NATION NOT ONLY EMANATES FROM ITS NATURAL AND GEOGRAPHIC RESOURCES BUT

DIVERSITY AND INGENUITY OF ITS PEOPLE. WE ARE NOW RECOMMITTING OUR RESOURCES TO THE FULL PURSUIT OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

OUR SPEAKERS TODAY ARE PATRICK APODACA AND RICHARD ARELLANO. MR. APODACA IS FROM NEW MEXICO. HE IS ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT. HE RECEIVED HIS JURIS DOCTOR DEGREE FROM HARVARD. I BELIEVE THIS IS HIS FIRST VISIT TO LANGLEY.

MR. ARELLANO IS DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INTER AMERICAN AFFAIRS. I AM HAPPY TO SAY THAT HE IS NO STRANGER TO THIS AGENCY. HE HOLDS A DOCTORATE IN ECONOMICS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN, AND UNTIL COMING TO WASHINGTON THIS YEAR, HE HAS LIVED IN THE MOST LATIN OF OUR CITIES, NEW ORLEANS. ?

MR. APODACA.